



Masonic
Charitable Foundation

What we do



www.mcf.org.uk



Our work in 2015

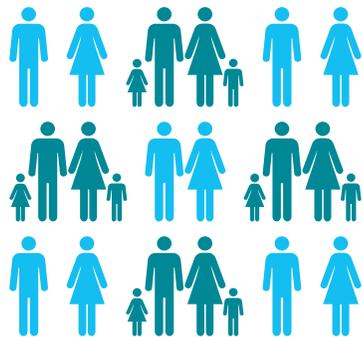
The Masonic Charitable Foundation builds better lives by enabling opportunity, advancing healthcare and education and promoting independence for Freemasons, their families and the wider community.

We provide our life-changing support through a combination of financial grants, practical assistance and advice.

We also award millions of pounds each year to local and national charities and other vital services that are making a significant difference to those in the wider community.

Funded entirely through the generosity of Freemasons and their families, the Foundation is one of the largest grant-making charities in the country, helping thousands of people every year.

**We helped
almost 5,000 people**



At a cost of over

£15M

**Grants awarded to
Community Support
and Research**





Support for Freemasons and their families

Many Freemasons and their families supported by the Foundation have experienced a life-changing event that reduced their household income or quality of life; for example redundancy, a medical diagnosis, family breakdown or a change in care needs.

To be eligible for a grant, those seeking support must demonstrate a financial, health or family need along with a strong family connection to a

Freemason under the United Grand Lodge of England. The Freemason does not necessarily need to be a subscribing member, but he must have joined before the need for support arose.

Eligible family members include the wives, partners or widows of Freemasons, as well as children or grandchildren up to the age of 25 and in full-time education. Adult children and siblings are not eligible for support.



“ In 2014 I suffered two strokes. I was in hospital for four months and I must be honest it was the worst time of my life. I never thought I would leave hospital because my house wasn't equipped for my mobility needs. Without your help it would have been impossible for me to come home. You helped me with everything from physio to all the equipment that I needed at home. ”

Geoff



Can we help you?

If you would like to speak to someone about the range of support available for Freemasons and their families, please speak to your Lodge Almoner or call our dedicated freephone enquiry line:

☎ 0800 035 60 90

Enquiries can also be emailed to **help@mcf.org.uk** or you can write to **Masonic Charitable Foundation, 60 Great Queen Street, London WC2B 5AZ.**



To donate, visit www.mcf.org.uk/donate

For Freemasons, for families ...

Financial

We provide grants to help families or individuals to recover from unexpected or long-term financial hardship. Our daily living grants help those unable to afford essential everyday costs such as household bills or food, and include an allowance for leisure activities to enable active participation in society and reduce isolation.

Our support for financial need includes:

- ♥ **Essential daily living costs**
- ♥ **Emergency grants following an accident, redundancy or personal crisis**
- ♥ **Funeral bills**
- ♥ **Minor home repairs**



Health

We can meet the full or partial cost of medical treatment where there is a long NHS waiting list and applicants can not easily afford the cost of private treatment. We can also help pay for dental treatment when necessary to restore function.

Grants are also available for mobility aids such as scooters and powered wheelchairs and essential home adaptations including stairlifts, entry ramps and hoists to enable Freemasons or family members to retain their independence.

We can also provide respite care so that those caring for family members are able to take a well-earned break, and our free Counselling Careline service is available for the emotional well-being of all Freemasons and their family members.

Our support for health needs includes:

- ♥ **Medical treatment**
- ♥ **Treatment to restore dental function**
- ♥ **Mobility aids and essential home adaptations**
- ♥ **Respite care**
- ♥ **Counselling**





Family

Children in full-time education

We provide grants to ensure that children in full-time education are able to reach their potential, despite difficulties they may be experiencing at home.

We can meet the full or partial cost of items such as computers and school uniforms, and can fund specialist tuition and extra-curricular activities so that children have access to the same opportunities as their friends.

We also help young people at university and those seeking once in a lifetime educational travel or volunteering opportunities.

Additionally, we can support young

people who have the potential to develop an exceptional talent in sport, music or the performing arts. Grants can be awarded to assist with ongoing costs such as sports coaching, advanced music lessons or the purchase of one-off items such as a musical instrument or sports equipment.

Our support for children and young people includes:

- ♥ Essential costs for education or training
- ♥ Scholarships, travel grants and student accommodation
- ♥ Supporting exceptional talent in sport, music or the performing arts



The Marchington family

David and Louise were only 15 and 13 when their father, Tony, died within six weeks of being diagnosed with skin cancer.

We stepped in straight away after Tony's death to reduce the financial strain that the family was facing. David is now at Oxford University and Louise is applying to universities for the next academic year. As with all families, we will support the Marchingtons for as long as they need us.

“At 13 years old, losing your dad is a very unstable time and I think I knew things were going to change which was a big worry. But we knew that we had a family with the Masonic charity. I'm sure dad would be really proud of us and that is because of the Masonic charity.”

Louise





Family

Older people

We support a wide range of care needs for older members of the family. We provide Masonic care homes and other services at 17 locations across England and Wales. All can offer places to people with dementia following an assessment of their needs, and many of the Homes are registered for both residential and nursing care.

Respite care grants can help meet the cost of short-term residential care breaks, domiciliary care in an individual's own home or visits to day centres. We also offer a limited number of holidays to UK destinations to give older people the

chance to make new friends and enjoy a change of scenery.

Our support for older people includes:

- ♥ **Masonic care homes – including nursing, residential, respite and dementia care**
- ♥ **UK holidays**



Real Lives Jean

Jean is a resident of a Masonic care home. She moved to the Home with her Freemason husband who died a few months later.

As with all members of the Masonic community who choose to live in one of our Homes, Jean has the security of knowing that she has a home for life, as long as it is possible to support her needs, even if her financial circumstances change for the worse.

“It’s nice here. We have a lot of choice about what we want to do with our time and the activities we want to take part in. Most importantly, we’re treated with respect. Sometimes, because we’re old and can’t do some things anymore, people forget we were all young once and lived very interesting lives but the people that work here treat us very well indeed.”

Jean

... for everyone

Community Support and Research

The Masonic Charitable Foundation looks beyond Freemasonry, making significant financial grants to help people live happy, fulfilling lives and participate actively in society.

To achieve this aim, grants are awarded to charities that provide support in the following areas:

- ♥ **Education and employability** for disadvantaged children and young people
- ♥ **Financial hardship** for those in poverty, debt or unemployment
- ♥ **Health and disability** for people experiencing chronic or life-limiting conditions and disabilities
- ♥ **Social exclusion and disadvantage** for those facing barriers to participating in society

We also provide funding to:

- ♥ **Advance medical and social research**
- ♥ **Hospices throughout England and Wales**
- ♥ **Air ambulance and rescue services**

Funding is provided to support major natural disaster relief appeals at the discretion of the President.

The charities we support make a significant and lasting difference to those in need. Our grants seek to benefit as many people as possible and further the causes about which Freemasons and their families have told us they are most passionate.

Through the work of the four charities that have joined together to form the Masonic Charitable Foundation, Freemasons have provided support amounting to around £130 million to charities across England, Wales and overseas.

For more information about our Community Support and Research grants and to find out how to apply, please visit:
www.mcf.org.uk/community





Can we help you?

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Freephone 0800 035 60 90 | Email help@mcf.org.uk | Visit www.mcf.org.uk

Alternatively, write to Masonic Charitable Foundation,
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